



Allergies

Your pet has been diagnosed with allergies. What does this mean? Unfortunately, allergies are one of the most frustrating medical conditions to treat, as there is no cure. However, there are multiple ways to treat the symptoms and keep your pet comfortable. As with people, no two animals will have the same allergies or respond to the same treatment. Because of this, treatment will usually start as trial and error, until we can find the right medications for your particular pet. We know that this can be frustrating and ask that you do not give up and give us your trust and time to find relief for your pet.

Allergy Facts:

- ~ There is NO CURE!
- ~ They can develop or worsen over time and with age
- ~ Multiple ways to treat or manage symptoms
- ~ Prevention of flare-ups is the best treatment!

Symptoms include but are not limited to:

- ~ Red, irritated skin
- ~ Scratching
- ~ Skin infections
- ~ Ear infections
- ~ Hair loss
- ~ Licking or chewing of paws
- ~ Very rarely do pets have sneezing, runny nose & watery eyes like people with allergies.

Flea Allergies:

- ~ Pet is allergic to the fleas' saliva
- ~ The most common skin disease in dogs and cats
- ~ 1 flea can make your pet miserable since it can bite over 400 times!!
- ~ Year round, monthly flea prevention will keep pet symptom free

Food Allergies:

- ~ Pet is allergic to some component in regular pet food
- ~ **NO DYES in food or treats!**
 - *Do not rely on the color of the food or treat – turn packaging over and look at list of ingredients to determine if there are dyes present*
- ~ Pet may require a prescription diet food to help manage symptoms
- ~ Very important to monitor what your pet eats!

Environmental Allergies:

- ~ Also referred to as Atopic Dermatitis
- ~ We do not always know for certain what exactly the pet is allergic to
- ~ Treat/manage symptoms and flare ups with medication
- ~ Testing & personalized allergy vaccines are available
 - *Testing can cost \$200-\$500
 - *Vaccines can cost \$150-\$250/ bottle, which can last 1-6 months